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NOTES.

FEW RECENT monographs give evidence of more patient ransacking of colonial records than does Dr. Cortlandt F. Bishop's "History of Elections in the American Colonies." * In the bewildering chaos of materials the writer brings order by his logical arrangement of topics. Part I is devoted to General Elections; here are found a sketch of the history of elections of colonial executives and assemblies, a discriminating account of the varying qualifications required of the electors in the different colonies, and a description of election methods. Part II contains a similar discussion of Local Elections. Several appendices are added, giving the writs, returns and oaths in use at various times in the colonies, certain unpublished statutes relating to elections, and a list of the authorities quoted.

In assorting and condensing material from so wide a field entire freedom from inaccurate or ambiguous statement could hardly be expected. Thus in the paragraph devoted to Massachusetts elections, Endicott is mentioned as "the first governor," the context implying that the office to which he was chosen in 1629 was the one authorized by the first charter, whereas it was not until many years later that Endicott became governor of the colony.

A study of the Federal Constitution and of congressional legislation would give but an inadequate notion of our present election methods. So in this monograph there is evidence here and there (as in the sections which relate to the assistants in Massachusetts) that the history has been written too largely from the statute-books, with too little regard to the essential modifications which law underwent in actual use. But in spite of slight defects of this kind the student will find in this book a painstaking, and, in the main, accurate summary of an important and hitherto neglected chapter in American institutional history.

MANY STUDENTS of economics are doubtless familiar with the excellent reprint of Cantillon's "*Essai sur le Commerce*,"† which Harvard University made some time since. This discussion of riches, labor,

* *History of Elections in the American Colonies*. By CORTLANDT F. BISHOP, Ph. D. Pp. 297. Price, \$1.50. Columbia College Studies in History, Economics and Public Law. Vol. III, No. 1. New York, 1893.

† *Essai sur le Commerce*. R. CANTILLON. Pp. 436. Price, \$1.50. Reprinted for Harvard University. Boston: George H. Ellis, 1892.

value, population, money, currency and exchange was written, as the editor of the reprint says, "between 1730 and 1734 by Richard Cantillon, a natural-born British subject." The preface to the reprint gives a brief biographical sketch of Cantillon, and a short list of the writings concerning the work of Cantillon. The edition of 1755 is the one reprinted. It has been reproduced from the French as far as possible without change. The binding and press work are well executed. The work forms a useful addition to the material available to students of economic theory.

MR. WILLIAM EPPS' "*Land Systems of Australia*"* contains a digest of the changes in the legislation of the several Australian provinces concerning the alienation and the occupation of land, with pertinent statistics. Large proportions of the land, whether "owned" or "occupied," are in large estates which are used for bonanza farming, or are held for speculation. No province has been able to forestall speculation. The author is "appalled" at the statistical disclosures of the relative increase of urban population even in this virgin land. New Zealand has recently undertaken to limit the amount of land owned or occupied to two thousand acres; and the governor is further authorized to establish State farms, to which "the surplus workmen of the town" shall be drafted. From a perusal of the book, it is apparent that there are economic forces at work in the settlement of Australia which the author does not appreciate at their true worth.

PERSONS DESIRING a brief sketch of English commercial history will find a recent book by H. de B. Gibbins† very readable. It is written in the form and style of a brief textbook. The writings of Bastable and Cunningham have been made use of to good advantage by the author. The style of the author is clear, the arrangement good, and the material has been chosen with discrimination. A good list of authorities, taken from Bastable article on "British Commerce," in the "Dictionary of Political Economy," is inserted at the end of the book.

THE FRIENDS of the University of Wisconsin have established two scholarships that enable the students holding them to do charitable work during the summer in Cincinnati and vicinity. The work is

* *Land Systems in Australia*. By WILLIAM EPPS. Pp. 184. Price, \$1.00. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co. New York: Imported by C. Scribner's Sons, 1894.

† *British Commerce and Colonies from Elizabeth to Victoria*. By H. DE B. GIBBINS, M. A. Pp. 136. Price, 1s. 6d. London: Methuen & Co., 1893.

done under the direction of Dr. P. W. Ayres, General Secretary of the Associated Charities of Cincinnati. As stated by Professor Ely, of the University of Wisconsin, the plan is to do work, "first, in the homes of certain portions of the city; second, in various municipal offices to which the Associated Charities has access; third, in various public and private institutions in Cincinnati and the neighboring cities." The two scholars appointed from the University of Wisconsin this year were Henry S. Youker and George S. Wilson, of the Class of 1894.

THE EIGHTH SESSION of the International Congress of Hygiene and Demography will be held at Budapesth September 1-9. The following comprehensive list of subjects has been selected for discussion :

Hygiene: I. Section: The Aetiology of Infectious Diseases (Bacteriology).—II. Section: The Prophylaxis of Epidemics.—III. Section: The Hygiene of the Tropics.—IV. Section: The Hygiene of Trades and Agriculture.—V. Section: The Hygiene of Children.—VI. Section: The Hygiene of Schools.—VII. Section: Articles of Food.—VIII. Section: The Hygiene of Towns.—IX. Section: The Hygiene of Public Buildings.—X. Section: The Hygiene of Dwellings.—XI. Section: The Hygiene of Communications (Railroads and Navigation).—XII. Section: Military Hygiene.—XIII. Section: Saving of Life.—XIV. Section: State Hygiene.—XV. Section: The Hygiene of Sport (Inurement and Care of the Body).—XVI. Section: The Hygiene of Baths.—XVII. Section: Veterinary.—XVIII. Section: Pharmacology.—XIX. Section: General Samaritan Affairs.

Demography: I. Section: Historical Demography.—II. Section: General Demography and Anthropometry.—III. Section: The Technic of Demography.—IV. Section: The Demography of the Agricultural Classes.—V. Section: The Industrial Laborers from the Demographic Point of View.—VI. Section: The Demography of Towns.—VII. Section: The Statistics of Bodily and Mental Defects.

Up to June 15th 718 papers had been promised. In connection with the Congress, there will be an exhibition for the purpose of illustrating the questions discussed, and showing the progress made in practical sanitation, etc. Provision is made for the entertainment of women attending the conference. The general secretary is Professor Dr. Coloman Müller.

MACMILLAN & Co. have brought out an elementary textbook on "Commercial Law."* Mr. Munro, the author, is "of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law, formerly Professor of Law in the Owens

* *Commercial Law*. An elementary textbook for commercial classes. By J. E. C. MUNRO, LL. D. Pp. viii, 191. Price, 3s. 6d. London and New York: Macmillan & Co., 1893.

College, Manchester. He has written "to provide an elementary textbook on commercial law, for schools and colleges." The work will doubtless prove useful to English students; but, inasmuch as the discussion is only of English commercial law, Americans will find the book serviceable only to a limited extent. A textbook of like character, written for Americans, would be a useful work.

MR. BURTON WILLIS POTTER has brought out a third and enlarged edition of "The Road and the Roadside."* It is popular in style, written for the double purpose of awakening an interest in better roads and of giving information concerning the laws pertaining to Massachusetts highways. Mr. Potter's legal training qualified him well for the second purpose, and that part of the work has much merit. Less can be said in favor of the other portions of the book, though they may possibly do something to awaken a popular interest in the subjects discussed. The appearance of a third edition, seven years after the first one, is evidence that this is the case.

IT IS THE INTENTION of Dr. C. W. Macfarlane, author of a recent monograph,† to write a "History of the General Doctrine of Rent" that shall include a review of the contributions to the subject by the English, French and German economists. The present monograph will form a part of that more comprehensive work. In this dissertation upon the contribution to the doctrine by German economists, the author considers the works of Hufeland, Kraus, Lüder, Jacob, Rau, Nebenius, Hermann, Schön, Riedel, Schüz, Eiselen, Mangoldt and Schäffle. He develops the subject by determining whether these writers extend the law of rent to land, labor, capital and the undertaker. In the case of land, he ascertains whether, in applying the law, the following Ricardian concepts are recognized: Difference in fertility, distance from market, law of increasing return, law of diminishing return, price determined by greatest cost, and rent determined by price. Some of the results of his study may be briefly stated as follows: The rent of capital is *formally* recognized by Hufeland, 1807; and by Rau, 1826; it is *actually* recognized by Hermann, 1832; and it is both formally and actually recognized by Mangoldt, 1855. The rent of labor and the rent of the undertaker are both formally and actually recognized by Hufeland and by Mangoldt.

* *The Road and the Roadside*. By BURTON WILLIS POTTER, M. A. Third edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. xix, 250. Price, \$1.50. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1893.

† *The History of the General Doctrine of Rent in German Economics*. By C. W. MACFARLANE, C. E. Pp. 61. Leipzig: Gustav Fock, 1893.

Even before Hufeland, the functions and qualifications of the undertaker were more or less clearly stated. In the application of the doctrine of rent to land, "we find in Hufeland a clear and explicit statement of all the Ricardian propositions, except the law of diminishing return; this, however, seems to have been quite frequently lost sight of in German, as well as in English economics," p. 57. A complete acceptance of the Ricardian doctrine is found in Rau, 1826. As a whole, the work is characterized by great painstaking and judicious criticism. There are, however, a few matters to which exceptions may be taken. Hufeland's contribution to the doctrine of land rent is overestimated. The author writes of Hufeland: "He parallels Ricardo (1815) in almost all his fundamental propositions. They are, perhaps, not quite so clearly stated as at the hands of the great Englishman, yet clear enough to leave no doubt as to his complete grasp of the question," p. 12. Now it is interesting to note that *every one* of the Ricardian concepts which the author finds expressed in Hufeland is taken by Hufeland from Adam Smith. Although President Walker shows that the return of the entrepreneur follows the same law as the rent of land, the author claims that "he has failed to reach that generality of concept found among those German economists who have contributed materially to the discussion, for, unlike them, he does not call this return—which admittedly follows the law of rent—the rent of the entrepreneur, but the profit of the entrepreneur," p. 9. But the mere fact that President Walker calls the return of the entrepreneur profit, and not rent, does not prove that he has failed to reach the generality of concept. Rau, Roscher and Mithoff, writing subsequently to Mangoldt and Schäffle, note the treatment of the rent doctrine by those economists, and yet refuse to accept their nomenclature.